1876

(12)

Police
1 of 1876
Shelf No. 3-4

Interference of the Police in matters connected with the destruction of damaged grain imported into Bangalore.

Marked
CR

1

Ft-5.3

1877.

0.984

From The Inspector General of Police,

To

Secretary to Chief Commissioner,
General Department.

Dated 24. May 1877.

Despatched

Received May 1877

ENCLOSURES NO. 1

General No. 2126 } 187 —7.
No. 218

Section Police
1-76
3

Reports the action taken by the Police in a rice case at Pettah and recommends the adoption of the measures suggested by the Merchants for separating the bad rice from the good ones before it leaves the Railway station.

No 200
28

Office of the Inspector General of Police
Bangalore 25th May 1887.

From The Hon. Off. Dept Inspector General of Police

To,

The Secretary to the
Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

Sir,

I have the honor to bring the following circumstances to notice, for the Chief Commissioner's orders.

2. On Monday evening Colonel Pearse wrote to me, that the leading Grain Merchants had appeared before him, complaining of the action that the police had taken, in seizing rice, and that he had ordered the Amildar to make enquiries.

3. As Cantonment Magistrate, I had while in Court that day been informed of the seizure of some rice while in transit: but there was nothing special in the circumstance which called for immediate action. On receipt of Colonel Pearse's note however I saw the Assistant Superintendent who immediately went to the Pettah to satisfy himself personally as to the statements made by the Merchants

Merchants. From this note received late at night (10 o'clock) I determined to go down and inspect the rice personally, and accordingly accompanied by Dr. Henderson and Mr. Hewetson, yesterday morning, went to the different places where the seized grain was stored.

4. The grain stored in the Police station contained some bags of damaged rice, but the larger portion was good.

5. Two of the store rooms of the godowns of one of the Merchants were sealed up by the police, but this was done at the request of the Merchant himself who placed the godowns at the service of the police for the storage of the damaged rice, which had been seized, preferring to have it on the premises, rather than send it to the Police station.

6. I, as Cantonment Magistrate, yesterday disposed of the cases, ordering the bad rice to be separated from the good, and destroyed. So far the cases were ordinary ones, and in the usual Course of things would not call for report. But during the inquiry, the leading Merchants pointed out, that if all their rice was to be seized because it contained one or two bags of bad rice, and afterwards the whole to be examined bag by bag in the

the presence of a punchayet, that the grain trade would be practically brought to a standstill.

When the police find what they consider bad rice, all that they can do is to seize it, and report the circumstances to the Magistrate. To allow the police the right of determining how much of such rice shall be destroyed, how much given over to the owner, would be placing in their hands a most undesirable power.

8. Under these circumstances, I would recommend that the course to which the leading merchants agree (vide their petition attached) should be adopted, viz, that the bad rice should be separated from the good before it leaves the Railway Station.

9. As regards the action of the police the fact that bad rice was among the good would justify the steps taken. In one instance however Inspector Ward committed a gross irregularity in sealing up & then releasing Merchants store room. He has been suspended.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Ob Servant

J. J. Macnaghten.
Offg. Depy Insp. General of Police

Translation of a petition by the Merchants of Bangalore —

We receive rice by Railway. It becomes wet in two ways 1st when it is in the steamer 2nd[ly] when it is in Railway trains. As soon as we receive rice we separate the wet or bad rice from the good and destroy the former. It is only after the rice is examined we are able to distinguish the good from the bad. We follow the above Course, as any attempt on our part to examine the rice midway between the railway station and our shop would incur great expenditure of money and trouble. So the Police Prosecutor[s] with us when rice is received and while the Examination is course of operation we beg to express our opinion in the matter and suggest that two definite places may be fixed in the neighbourhood of the Railway station to contain each kind of rice after it has been carefully Examined and the Merchants given a pass allowing them to take away the good rice. The method of examination may be as follows.

The examination of the rice as soon as it is poured down might cause loss of time and money Therefore, only such carriages should be unloaded as are found to contain good rice. Out of the wet carriages the portion spoiled may be rejected and the remainder sold. If after the rice is brought to our shops we find any bad rice we will immediately send it for inspection to be destroyed. If the bags of rice are opened and poured on the ground for the purpose of examination great delay will result. "

whole loads of rice shows in
rice ones containing good rice permitted to be taken
way. If this plan is adopted we are sure there
would be no room for Police interference.
of the rice brought to our shops we will be
very careful to destroy the portion spoiled as
we have done up to this time. If it is known
to Govt that we keep bad rice they are at liberty
to destroy it. But being afraid that the
Police will trouble us on the supposition tha
we have such rice in our shops we have ma
the above suggestion.

It may appear that the examination of the
be loads of rice near the Railway station will
be the cause of great nuisance; if so we
beg for orders to the effect that if any merch
be suspected of keeping with him any bad
rice his shop may be examined either in
presence of Police Panchayatdars or by the
Municipal Board Commissioner.
For the time being we have kindly this comm
and if we feel the necessity of any change
in it we will gladly express it.

1

10

General No: 2126
" 247

Dated 30th May 1877.

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

Police

No. 1-26

Serial No. 4

Proceedings of the Chief Comm^r of Mysore.
Bangalore 30th May 1877.

Letter from the Dy. Insp^r Gl. of Police No. 200/28 dated 24th May 1877.

Read.

With reference to the above, the Chief Comm^r directs that, in future, should the Police and the Sanitary Inspector have reason to suspect that any of the bags received at the Railway Station contain damaged or unwholesome rice, it will be their duty to set them aside for the inspection of the Committee who will dispose of the damaged grain as they may deem proper. The interference of the Police with the grain after it has left the Railway station should be strictly prohibited, unless damaged grain is exposed for sale.

The Captain presumes this under the orders of the Special Committee when Mr Anderson is President, arrangements will be made to remove and destroy all damaged grain.

It is important there be no interference on the part of the Police in the grain, after it has left the Railway Station & allowed to any purchaser.

29/5/77 [illegible]

To the Dy Insp^r Gl. of Police.
Jd
Returning petition
WHC

1877 No. 6

To Dep. Inspr. Genl of Police

Bangalore 30th Jan 1877

Sir

General No: 2126

G. 247

I deprecate the interference of the Police in matters connected with the destruction of damaged grain imported into Bangalore